

Please add the following claims:

14. (New) A method comprising:

capturing an intensity at a location on a surface in a single pixel of a linear image

AA sensing array (ISA); and

converting the intensity into a measurement of distance to the location relative to

a reference point independently of data from other pixels of the linear ISA.

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendment before substantive examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on November 30, 2001.

Susan M. Ocegueda

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11/30/2001
Date

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method comprising:
capturing an intensity at a location on a surface in a single pixel of an image sensing array (ISA); and
converting the intensity into a measurement of distance to the location relative to a reference point independently of data from other pixels of the ISA and independent of time of flight of light reflected from the location to the single pixel.
6. (Amended) A method comprising:
capturing an intensity at a location on a surface in an elementary group of pixels on an image sensing array (ISA) without regard to intensity distribution within the group; and
converting the intensity into a measurement of distance to the location independently of data from other pixels on the ISA and independently of time of flight of light reflected from the location to the elementary group of pixels.
11. (Amended) A method comprising:
capturing a spectral energy distribution returned from a location on a surface in a single pixel of an ISA; and
converting the spectral energy distribution into a measurement of distance to the location relative to a reference point independently of data from other pixels of the ISA and independent of time of flight of light reflected from the location to the single pixel.
12. (Amended) A method comprising:
altering one of a spatial and optical relationship between an image sensing array (ISA) and a surface;
observing a variation of an electrical signal at a single pixel on the ISA responsive to the alteration; and

converting the variation to a measure of distance to a location on the surface relative to a reference point, independently of data from other pixels of the ISA and independent of time of flight of light reflected from the location to the single pixel.

13. (Amended) A method comprising:

altering one of a spatial and optical relationship between an image sensing array (ISA) and a surface;

observing a variation of an electrical signal at an elementary group of pixels on the ISA without regard to variations in electrical signals within the group responsive to the alteration; and

converting the variation to a measure of distance to a location on the surface relative to a reference point, independently of data from other pixels of the ISA and independent of time of flight of light reflected from the location to the elementary group of pixels.

14. (New) A method comprising:

capturing an intensity at a location on a surface in a single pixel of a linear image sensing array (ISA); and

converting the intensity into a measurement of distance to the location relative to a reference point independently of data from other pixels of the linear ISA.